

George Washington and Malinda (Runnion) Buckner Family

Compiled by Carl K. Buckner, March, 2019

The year 1866 was a busy and emotional one for Malinda Buckner. While a member of the 2nd North Carolina Mounted Infantry, her husband, George Washington Buckner, had died of dysentery on August 17, 1864, at Cumberland Gap, Tennessee. According to family legend, upon learning of his death, Malinda rode from her home in Madison County, North Carolina, to Cumberland Gap, a distance of approximately 100 miles, on horseback in an attempt to find his body. While the reality of her trip is not known with certainty, George's body was apparently buried near the regimental hospital at Cumberland Gap and reinterred at a later date in or near Old Gray Cemetery, Knoxville, Knox County, Tennessee. The site is not marked.

Although impossible to view the American Civil War directly through the eyes of our ancestors, we can, at least, try to piece together the events of their lives during that time of turmoil using existing source materials. For us, there are two important documents that give us a glimpse into the lives of George and Malinda Buckner. The most important of these is the application Malinda made for a widow's civil war pension, initiated in 1866. The second is the collection of papers related to the settlement of George's estate, also filed in 1866.

In her application for a pension, Malinda provides significant information about herself and her family. First of all, she uses the surname Runnion which was her mother's maiden name. Various sources at different times list her surname as Rice or Thompson. Ann Branson and Elfriede Wilde have helped provide more accurate information about Malinda through personal communications with family contacts, . While authenticating proof has not been found, Malinda appears to have been born out of wedlock, the child of Joseph Edward (referred to as "Big Ed") Rice and Mary "Mollie" (sometimes "Polly") Runnion. Consequently, she has sometimes been known as Malinda Rice, especially by Rice family members having first-hand knowledge of her parentage. Mollie is said by some to have been of Cherokee



Mary “Mollie” Runnion Thompson, mother of Malinda Runnion Buckner (From “Jacob Wild, Year 1500” by Elfriede Ludwig Wilde, Mars Hill College Bookstore, 2011).

descent, but despite physiognomic attempts, that hypothesis has no objective supporting evidence.

Not long after Malinda's birth on December 22, 1831, Mollie presumably married John Thompson. As a result, Malinda's surname is sometimes said to have been Thompson. She was living with her mother and step-father and given his surname, probably not officially, in the 1850 US census for Yancey County, North Carolina. In 1851, their residence became part of the newly formed Madison County. Living nearby were a number of established as well as future Buckner, Runnion, and Thompson relatives including Joseph Edward

SCHEDULE I.—Free Inhabitants in
 the County of Shirley Virginia

enumerated by me, on the 8 day of November 1850. Lorenzo D. Polk Ass't Marshal.

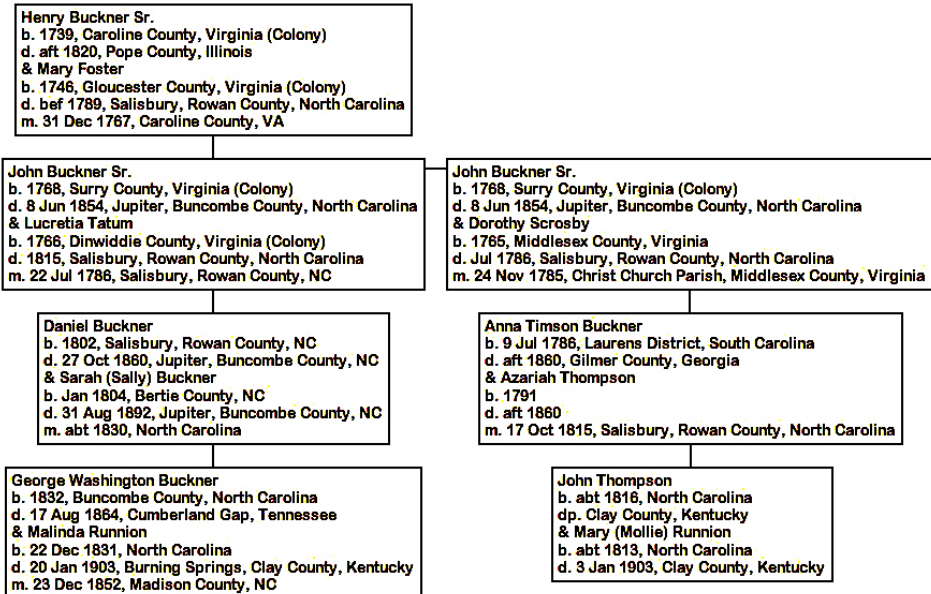
FAMILIES ENROLLLED IN THE ORDER OF VENIANT.			DESCRIPTORS.			Profession, Occupation, or Trade of such Male Person over 15 years of age.	Value of Real Estate owned.	PLACE OF BIRTH. Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year preceding the 1st day of January within the year.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
1	2	3	4	5	6					
William	"	11	"	"				North Carolina	/	
John	Thompson	24	"	"		Farmer	200	"	/	
Harish	"	16	"	"				"	/	
David	all	2	"	"				"	/	
Shipt	"	6	"	"				"		
Oliver	"	2	"	"				"		
William	"	26	"	"				"		
Harry	"	27	"	"				"	/	
Colin	"	15	"	"				"	/	
Elizabeth	"	9	"	"				"	/	
John	"	15	"	"				"		

Excerpted from the 1850 US census for Yancey County, North Carolina, showing Malinda Thompson, age 15, living with her mother Mary, her step-father John Thompson, and her half-siblings. From familysearch.org.

SCHEDULE I.—Free Inhabitants in *Buncombe* **Sta**
of *North Carolina* **enumerated by me, on the** *12th* **day of** *June* **1850.** *C. N. McCune* Ass't Marsh

Dwellings in the county, in the state of Alabama, in the year 1850.	Families residing in the state of Alabama.	The Name of every Person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1850, was in this family.	Description.			Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each Male Person over 15 years of age.	Value of Real Estate owned.	Place of Birth. Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Whether deaf dumb, blind, idiotic, pauper, convict.	
			Age.	Sex.	Color, or Race.							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1850	1850	L. Buckner	48	m	Free	400	NC					
		Sarah	42	F			"					
		Geo. S.	18	m	11 Laborer		"					
		George W.	18	m	11 Laborer		"					
		James W.	15	m	11 Laborer		"					
		Newton J.	12	m	11		"					
		Graville	11	m	11		"					
		Lucy M.	9	m			"					
		John H.	6	m			"					
		Mary J.	4	F			"					
		Sarah M.	1	F			"					

Excerpted from the 1850 US census for Buncombe County, North Carolina, showing George W. Buckner, age 18, living with his parents Daniel and Sarah "Sally" Buckner and his siblings. From familysearch.org.



Genealogy chart showing the relationship between George Washington Buckner and John Thompson, husband of Mary "Mollie" Runnion. They had the same grandfather but different grandmothers.

Rice. Big Ed had married Martha “Pattie” Roberts in 1832 and the couple had seven children at the time of the 1850 US census.

George Washington Buckner, the second oldest child of Daniel and Sarah “Sally” Buckner as listed in the 1850 US census, was born in Buncombe County, North Carolina, in about 1832. The exact date of his birth is not known with certainty and the birth year of 1832 is estimated from US census and American Civil War service records. He was the half 1st cousin of John Thompson and this relationship may have resulted in or at least facilitated his meeting and marriage with John’s step-daughter Malinda Runnion.

On December 23, 1852, Malinda Runnion married George Washington Buckner in Madison County, North Carolina. This information is provided in Malinda’s pension application as a sworn statement by Reverend Stephen Wallin, the minister who married them. According to Wallin, the original record was “destroyed.” Wallin was also a neighbor of the Thompsons at the time of the 1850 US census for Yancey County.

Malinda’s pension application was initiated on June 11, 1866, and approved November 1, 1867. In that period of time, she (or rather her attorneys, H. S. Terrell and W. W. Rollins) compiled adequate supporting information. This included the names and dates of birth of her minor children, confirmation of her marriage to George and of George’s enlistment and death in the service, and supporting statements or affidavits.

The next few pages show parts of the original pension application Malinda made in 1866-1867. Some have been transcribed for ease of reading and for clarity. Those that have been transcribed have been numbered consecutively with the image and transcription having the same number. Comments have been made in some cases for emphasis regarding a person, place, or event of family interest and/or importance. The complete pension application as well as other family-relevant materials are available at archive.org. Links to those can be found in the appendix.

The children listed for Malinda Buckner are those living at the time of her pension application. George and Malinda had at least one additional child, Polly, listed as one year old in the 1860 US census (excerpted record shown

State of North Carolina, personally appeared
Madison County } before me Elisha
J. Tweed Clerk of The Court of pleas
and quarter session within and
for said County

Stephen Wallen a regular Minister
of The gospel and after being duly
sworn state that he solemnized the
rites of matrimony between George
W. Buckner and Malinda
Runnion on the 23rd day of December
1852 and he further states that
the reason that said marriage
does not appear on record was
because the papers was destroyed
before he returned them
he further states that he has
no interest in the claim whatever
Stephen Wallen M.G.

Sworn to this the 4th day of
October 1866 who I certify to be
entitled to full credit
and that I have no interest
in the prosecution of said claim
Elisha J. Tweed
Clerk of the County Court

Sworn statement of Stephen Wallin that the original marriage record was destroyed but that he was the minister who married George Buckner and Malinda Runnion on December 23, 1852. The statement was provided on October 4, 1866, before Elisha J. Tweed, Clerk of the County Court in Madison County, North Carolina, and is part of the widow's pension application filed by Malinda Buckner. Tweed was 10 years old and living near the Thompsons in Yancey County in 1850. All pension images from Fold3.

WAR OF 1861

Acts of July 14, 1862, and July 25, 1866.

CLAIM FOR WIDOW'S PENSION, WITH MINOR CHILDREN.

102674

BRIEF in the case of *Malinda Buckner*

, Widow of

George M. Buckner Pri. Co. "D", 2^d M. C. V.

Resident of *Madison*

County, and State of

North Carolina

Post Office address: *Asheville*

N. C.

DECLARATION AND IDENTIFICATION IN DUE FORM.

PROOF EXHIBITED.

Service. *Enrolled Sept 15, 1863. And reported by the adjutant, W. H. A. follows: "Died Aug. 17, 1864, of Cumberland Gap Fever. The Surgeon Major, reports as follows: 'that he died Aug 17, 1864, of Cumberland Gap Fever of Acute Dysentery, later on Sept 1st, 1864, he died of Chronic Diarrhoea contracted in the service & in the line of duty.'*

Marriage. *Proved by affidavit of Chaplain who married George M. Buckner and Malinda Buckner on the 25th Dec 1862, alleged date same,*

Names and dates of birth of children.	born	who will be 16 years old	Dec. 2 ⁶ , 1869.
<i>Sarah J.</i>	<i>Dec. 3rd 1853</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>William Isaac.</i>	<i>March 16th 1855,</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>Mar 15th, 1877.</i>
<i>Orpah A.</i>	<i>Feb 14th 1860,</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>Feb 13th, 1878.</i>
<i>George M.</i>	<i>Jan 21st 1863,</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>Jan 20th, 1879.</i>

Proof of ages. *Proved by Cert Copy of public record,*

Loyalty. *Shown,*

Agent, and his P. O. address. *Attorney Suspended Address Claimant Asheville N. C.*

Issue certificate for *800* dollars per month, commencing *August 18*, 1864, and two dollars per month additional for each of the above-named children, commencing *July 25*, 1866.

C. S. Barrow, Examiner.

Passed *Nov 1st*, 1867.

APPROVED:

W. H. A.

Record showing the approval of the claim for a widow's pension with minor children filed by Malinda Buckner. The names of her living minor children and their dates of birth are documented in this official record. From Fold3.

on page 8 of the document entitled "William Isaac and Mary Elizabeth Dockery Buckner Family Profile" at archive.org, see Appendix). There appears to be no other record of Polly and she is presumed to have died at an early age, before the 1866 initiation of Malinda's pension application.

There is some controversy regarding the birth date of Sarah Jane, the oldest child of George and Malinda Buckner. The pension approval document shows her birth date as December 3, 1853. In contrast, four other pages of the pension application give a birth year of 1852 for Sarah. Additionally, Sarah's death certificate and tombstone show 1852 as her birth year. Consequently, it seems possible that Sarah Jane Buckner was born before the marriage of George and Malinda and that the year 1853 was listed in the final pension approval record because it was feared that Malinda might not receive the additional pension payment for Sarah Jane as a legitimate dependant.

State of Ark. Lewis and Clark
County of Madison
I, E. J. Tweed Clerk
of County Court in and for said
County, do Certify that it fully
appears of record in this office
that there were borned the following
named Children of George W. Buckner
and his wife Malinda Buckner as
follows to-wit:
Sarah Buckner borne Dec 3rd 1852
William J. Buckner " March 16th 1855
Noah J. Buckner " Feb 14th 1861
George W. Buckner " Jan 21st 1863

In witness whereof I have
unto set my hand and affixed
the Seal of said Court at Office
in Marshall this 25th Day of Oct
A.D. 1867
E. J. Tweed Clerk
of the County Court

1. One of four pages in Malinda Buckner's pension application, dated October 25, 1867, listing 1852 as the birth year of her daughter Sarah. It also gives 1861 instead of 1860 as the birth year for her son Noah J. Fold3.

*State of North Carolina
County of Madison*

*I EJ Tweed clerk
of County Court in and for said
County, do certify that it fully
appears of record in this office
that there were borned the following
named children of George W Buckner
and his wife Malinda Buckner as
follows viz*

<i>Sarah Buckner</i>	<i>borne</i>	<i>Dec 3rd 1852</i>
<i>William I Buckner</i>	<i>“</i>	<i>March 16th 1855</i>
<i>Noah J Buckner</i>	<i>“</i>	<i>Feby 14th 1861</i>
<i>George W Buckner</i>	<i>“</i>	<i>Jany 21st 1863</i>

*In witness whereof I have
unto set my hand and affix
the seal of said court at office
in Marshall this 25th day of Oct
AD 1867.*

*E. J. Tweed Clerk
of the County Court*

1. Official record in Madison County, North Carolina, for the births of the children of George Washington and Malinda Runnion Buckner transcribed from the handwritten document on the previous page. The birth years for Sarah and Noah are not consistent with those listed in the document finalizing Malinda's pension application shown earlier. Also, their son George had a middle initial of M for Marion instead of the W written here by the clerk. It is possible that corrections were made in a separate document that is missing from or never included in the pension application papers. In any case, Tweed is implying in this statement that there are records in his Madison County office to support the names and birth dates of the children of George and Malinda Buckner.

Adjutant General's Office,

Washington, D. C.,

August 14th, 1866.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt from your Office of application for Pension No. 130,952, and to return it herewith, with such information as is furnished by the files of this Office.

It appears from the Rolls on file in this Office, that George Buckner was enrolled on the 15th day of Sept, 1863, at Greenville in Co. A, 2nd Regiment of North Carolina Volunteers, to serve Three years, or during the war, and mustered into service as a Private on the 6th day of October 1863, at Greenville in Co. A, 2nd Regiment of North Carolina Volunteers, to serve Three years, or during the war. On the Muster, ^{out} Roll of Co. A of that Regiment, for the months of Oct to Aug 1864, he is reported "Died Aug 17/64 at Cumberland Gap. Cause of death not stated. The name of George W. Buckner is not known upon any rolls of this Co."

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. F. Buck

The Commissioner of Pensions,
Washington, D. C.

Assistant Adjutant General.

Memoranda

Name of applicant

Address

Document dated August 14, 1866, confirming the service record for George Washington Buckner in the 2nd North Carolina Mounted Infantry and his death at Cumberland Gap on August 17, 1864. From Fold3.

Surgeon General's Office,

Record and Pension Bureau,

Washington, D. C. *Aug 29th* 1866.

Sir:

I have the honor to return herewith application for Pension, No. *13095-2*
with such information as is furnished by the records of this Office. *Pirate*
George Buckner, Co. *C*, 2nd
Regiment. *Nb. Mtd Infy*, is reported to this Office by
Surgeon *H. Emmadge* as having died *Aug 17*, 1864, at
Cumberland Gap Tenn
of *Acute Dysentery*.

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant.

BY ORDER OF THE SURGEON GENERAL:

J. J. Woodward

Brevet Major and Assistant Surgeon, U. S. Army.

The Commissioner of Pensions,
Washington, D. C.

Fif

Document dated August 29, 1866, confirming the death of George Washington Buckner at Cumberland Gap on August 17, 1864, as a result of Acute Dysentery. From Fold3.

State of North Carolina
County of Madison

On this 31st day of
July 1867 personally appeared
before me E. J. Tweed, Clerk of the
County Court in and for said County
Anson B. Sams late acting asst
Surgeon 2nd Regt. Cal. Inf. who on
oath says that he was present at
Cumberland Gap and attended on
George Buckner late of Private Co
A 2nd Regt. Cal. Inf. and gave him
medicine up to the day of his death
and that the said Private George
Buckner died from the effects of
Chronic Disenter contracted while
in the service and line of his duty
These facts he knows by personal
knowledge having been present and
attended on him all through his
sickness and saw him die
and that he has no interest in this
Claim
A. B. Sams,

Sworn to and subscribed before me this
31st day of July 1867 and I hereby certify
that I know the said Anson B.
Sams to be a Surgeon in actual practice
reputable in his profession and that
I have no interest in this Claim
Witness my hand as such

E. J. Tweed, Clerk
of the County Court

2. Sworn statement of Anson B. Sams, a surgeon who treated George Washington Buckner at the time of his illness and death at Cumberland Gap. It is shown transcribed on the next page. From Fold3.

*State of North Carolina
County of Madison*

*On this 31st day of
July 1867 personally appeared
before me E J Tweed clerk of the
County Court in and for said County
Anson B Sams late acting asst
Surgeon 2nd NC Mtd Infy who on
oath says that he was present at
Cumberland Ky and attended on
George Buckner late a Private Co
"A" 2nd NC Mtd Infy and give him
medicine up to the day of his death
and that the said Private George
Buckner died from the effects of
Chronic Diarrhea contracted while
in the service and line of his duty.
These facts he knows by personal
knowledge having been present and
attended on him all through his
sickness and saw him die
and that he has no interest in this
claim.*

A. B. Sams

*Sworn to and subscribed before me this
31st day of July 1867 and I hereby certify
that I know the Said Anson B
Sams to be a Surgeon in actual practice
reputable in his profession and that
I have no interest in this claim.
Witness my hand and seal.*

*E. J. Tweed, Clerk
of the County Court*

*2. Sworn statement of Anson B. Sams transcribed from handwriting
shown on the previous page.*

State of North Carolina }
County of Macon } before me
Elisha J. Tweed clerk of the Court
of pleas and quarter session for said
County

William Sprinkles and James Yelton
both of said County who are personally
to full credit after being duly sworn
by me state that they are well acquainted
with George W. Buckner deceased who
was a private in Company A of the
2nd North Carolina Mounted Infantry
who was taken sick some time in
June 1864 They think the disease to be
Chronic Diarrhea who was sent to
Regimental hospital at Cumberland Gap Tenn
where he died on or near the 15
day of August 1864

They state that their information is
derived from being present and
seeing him while he was sick
and after he was dead
and that they have no interest in the
prosecution of said Claim

William Sprinkles

James Yelton

Sworn to this the 5th day of October 1866
in witness where of I have hereunto
set my hand and affixed the seal
of said Court at office in Marshall
and that I have no interest in this Claim

Elisha J. Tweed

C. C. Clerk

3. Sworn statements of William Sprinkle(s) and James Yelton who saw George Washington Buckner at the time of his illness and death at Cumberland Gap. It is shown transcribed on the next page. From Fold3.

*State of North Carolina personally appeared
County of Madison before me*

*Elisha J. Tweed Clerk of the Court
of pleas and quarter session for said
county*

*William Sprinkles and James Yelton
both of said county who are persons entitled
to full credit after being duly sworn
by me state that they are well acquainted
with George W. Buckner Deceased who
was a private in Company A of the
2nd North Carolina Mounted Infantry
who was taken sick some time in
June 1864 they think the disease to be
Chronic Diarrhea who was sent to
Regimental hospital at Cumberland Gap Tenn
where he died on or near the 15
day of August 1864.*

*They state that their information is
derived from being present and
seeing him while he was sick
and after he was dead
and that they have no interest in the
prosecution of said claim.*

*William Sprinkles
James Yelton*

*Sworn to this the 5th day of October 1866
in witness where of I have hereunto
wet my hand and affixed the seal
of said court at office in Marshall
and that I have no interest in this claim.*

*Elisha J. Tween
C.C. Clerk*

*3. Sworn statement of William Sprinkle(s) and James Yelton transcribed
from handwriting shown on the previous page.*

Warm Springs N.C.
May 7th 1877

Sir:

I have the honor to report the result of an investigation, made by me - in case No 102684 of Malinda Buckner widow of Geo. W. Buckner Pri Co "A" 7th N.C. Md & 21st -

The soldier enlisted Sept 15 1863 and died at Cumberland Gap Tenn Aug 17th 1864 of Acute Dysentery -

The 2nd Lt of the Company and two comrades testify that the soldier died at Cumberland Gap Tenn of Dysentery and the Acting Asst Surgeon of the Regt makes affidavit that he treated the soldier before his death and that he died of Dysentery -

There is no evidence on file to show that the soldier was in good health at enlistment and the pensioners now swear that he had been afflicted with "Kidney" and "Liver" diseases and with Gout ever since he first knew him and that at three different times ^{times of operation} with gatherings in his throat which were so large that they threatened his life -

He states that he ^{was} conscripted by the rebels but was allowed to come home in a short time because he was not fit to be a soldier on account of chronic diseases and that he was sick,

4. Page 1 of a document regarding the 1877 investigation of Malinda Buckner's widow's pension. This investigation provides additional information about the health and service record of George Washington Buckner and suggests that there may have been irregularities with regard to the handling of her initial pension payment. It is shown transcribed on the next page. From Fold3.

Warm Springs NC
May 7th 1877

Sir:

I have the honor to report the result of an investigation, made by me, in case No 102674 of Malinda Buckner widow of Geo. W. Buckner Pvt Co "A", 2nd NC Mtd Inf.

The soldier enlisted Sept 15 1863 and died at Cumberland Gap Tenn Aug 17th 1864 of Acute Dysentery.

The 2nd Lt of the company and two comrades testify that the soldier died at Cumberland Gap Tenn of Diarrhea and the acting asst surgeon of the regt makes affidavit that he treated the soldier before his death and that he died of Diarrhea

There is no evidence on file to show that the soldier was in good health at enlistment and the pensioner now swears that he had been afflicted with "Kidney" and "Liver" diseases and with gravel ever since she first knew him and that at three different times he was afflicted with gatherings in his throat which were so large that they threatened his life.

She states that he was conscripted by the rebels but was allowed to come home in a short time because he was not fit to be a soldier on account of chronic diseases and that he was sick

4. Page 1 of the 1877 investigation of Malinda Buckner's pension transcribed from handwriting shown on the previous page.

when he came home after being conscripted and was confined to his bed for some time and was not able to do any work up to the time he entered the Union Army -

It is probable that he was rejected when conscripted and never taken into that service - It may seem strange that he was taken into the Union Army if in such condition as his widow describes but when it is remembered that he was taken into the service by Col Geo W Kirk and when Kirk's character is fully understood the mystery will be solved - Kirk was very anxious to secure a Commission as Col and to succeed in this every man was taken without any regard to his condition because then others were taken into service because of the fact that they could not remain at home and had no where else to go - The pensioner referred me to the soldier's own family and to Drs ^{manion} Roberts and James Hallin for further proof in regard to her late husband's condition and there is no question in my mind in regard to the truth of what she has sworn to in the affidavit therewith - She made the statements in the presence of her sons wife and another woman who lives in the same family with her - The affidavit was read to her in the hearing

5. Page 2 of a document regarding the 1877 investigation of Malinda Buckner's widow's pension. It is shown transcribed on the next page. From Fold3.

when he came home after being conscripted and was confined to his bed for some time and was not able to do any work up to the time he entered the union army.

It is probable that he was rejected when conscripted and never taken into that service. It may seem strange that he was taken into the union army if in such condition as his widow describes but when it is remembered that he was taken into the service by Col Geo W Kirk and when Kirks character is fully understood the mystery will be solved. Kirk was very anxious to secure a commission as Col and to increase in this every man was taken without any regard to his condition ~~because~~ Then others were taken into service because of the fact that they could not remain at home and had no where else to go. The pensioner referred me to the soldiers own family and to Drs Marrion Roberts and Jessee Wallin for further proof in regard to her late husbands condition and there is no question in my mind in regard to the truth of what she has sworn to in the affidavit herewith. She made the statements in the presence of her sons wife and another woman who lives in the same family with her. The affidavit was read to her in the hearing

5. *Page 2 of the 1877 investigation of Malinda Buckner's pension transcribed from handwriting shown on the previous page.*

of these persons and she signed it
in their presence -

Very respectfully,
G. H. Bage Dale
Special Agt

Wm J. Abentley
Commissioner

Washington

DC

This claim was prosecuted through Wm
Rollins and the pensioner does not know
how much was deducted for fees - she did
not receive any money scarcely but
was allowed to have all the goods
she wanted - There is scarcely a doubt
that one half of the first payment was
withheld and as the check passed into
the hands of R. S. Bage and was endorsed
to someone else by him - the burden of
proof will have to be made by him
showing what disposition he made
of the money. This testimony in connection
with his books will be sufficient I think
to show that Rollins received the money

G. H. B.

6. Page 3 of a document regarding the 1877 investigation of Malinda Buckner's widow's pension. It is shown transcribed on the next page. From Fold3.

*of these persons and she signed it
in their presence.*

*Very Respectfully
G. H. Ragsdale
Special Agt*

*Hon J. A. Bentley
Commissioner
Washington
DC*

*This claim was prosecuted through W W
Rollins and the pensioner does not know
how much was deducted for fees. She did
not receive any money scarcely but
was allowed to have all the goods
she wanted. There is scarcely a doubt
that one half of the first payment was
withheld and as the check passed into
the hands of R. S. Gage and was endorsed
to someone else by him, the burden of
proof will have to be made by him
showing what disposition he made
of the money. his actions in connection
with his books will be sufficient I think
to show that Rollins received the money*

GHR

6. Page 3 of 1877 investigation of Malinda Buckner's pension transcribed from handwriting shown on the previous page.

EXHIBIT

CASE OF Malinda Buckner, No. 102674

On this 3rd day of May, 1877, at Near Big Laurel, County of Madison State of N C, before me, Wm Ragsdale a Special Agent of the Pension Office, personally appeared Malinda Buckner, who being by me duly sworn according to law, declares that her age is 44 years, that she resides at Near Big Laurel County of Madison, State of N C, and that she is the pensioner in the above entitled case. That her late husband George W Buckner was conscripted & taken off to the rebel army during the war but was soon sent home because he was not fit to be a soldier. That he was badly affected when she first knew him and so continued up to the time he joined the Union Army. That he had chronic disease of the liver and kidneys and gravel and at three different times had gathings in his throat and his life was despaired of at such times. That he was confined to his bed for some time after he came back from the rebels and had not recovered so as to be able to work up to the time he joined the Union Army. That Dr Jesse Wallin treated him before the war and Dr Marion Roberts treated him during the war. That she only knows the names of his diseases by what the doctors called them. That he sometimes had diarrhoea that she refers to his mother & brother for further proof of his general bad health before & during the war. That on W M Rollins prosecuted her claim for pension. That she does not know how much he charged her for his services. That up to three years ago her papers were kept by one R. B. Goss and she did not receive any money out of her first pension or any other that she received. Goss gave her some money but she does not know what he took for his fee. Malinda further declares that she has no interest, direct or indirect, in the claim of her pension amounting to or what becoming of it for a Pension; and further saith not.

Witness to me
Nancy Crow
Elizabeth Buckner

Malinda W Buckner
 Affiant.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 3rd day of May 1877; and I certify that the contents were fully made known to affiant before signing.

Wm H. Ragsdale
 Special Agent.

7. Summary of the 1877 investigation of Malinda Buckner's widow's pension. It is shown transcribed on the next page. From Fold 3.

This is known as an EXHIBIT and is a summary of the 1877 investigation of the pension of Malinda Buckner stating that

“she is the pensioner in the above entitled case that her late husband George W Buckner was conscripted & taken off to the rebel army during the war but was soon sent home because he was not fit to be a soldier. That he was badly affected when she first knew him and so continued up to the time he entered the Union Army – that he had chronic disease of the liver and kidneys and gravel and at three different times had gatherings in his throat and his life was despaired of at such times – That he was confined to his bed for some time after he came back from the rebels and had not recovered so as to be able to work up to the time he joined the union army – That Dr Jesse Wallin treated him before the war and Dr Marion Roberts treated him during the war – That she only knows the names of his diseases by what the Doctors called them – That he sometimes had Diarrhea That she refers to his mother & brothers for further proof of His general bad health before & during the war – That one W W Rollins prosecuted her claim for pension – That she does not know how much he charged her for his services – That up to three years ago her papers were kept by one R. S. Gage and she did not receive any money out of her first payment or any other that she received goods from said Gage when she wanted anything That she does not know what the first payment of her pension amounted to or what became of it”

7. Summary of the 1877 investigation of Malinda Buckner’s pension transcribed from handwriting shown on the previous page. Witnesses were Nancy Crow and Elizabeth Buckner (Mary Elizabeth Dockery Buckner, wife of Malinda’s son William Isaac Buckner). The physician Jesse Wallin was a brother of Stephen Wallin. Malinda signed with her mark (x) and the document is dated May 3, 1877.

Information presented in Malinda's pension application is somewhat consistent with available unit records for George's service. He enlisted in the 64th North Carolina Regiment on July 15, 1862, at Greeneville, Greene County, Tennessee, along with many other men from Madison County who were conscripted in accordance with the Conscription Act passed on April 16 of that year by the Confederate Congress. Almost all of his records with the 64th contain the remark that he was "absent without leave." This supports the suggestion in the 1877 review of her pension that George probably

Confederate.
64 N. C.

George Buckner
Privt, Co. *D*, 64 Reg't North Carolina
 Infantry (State Troops).

Appears on
 Company Muster Roll
 of the organization named above,
 for *July 15, 1862 to July 23, 1863*
Dated March 19, 1863

Enlisted:
 When *July 15, 1862*
 Where *Marshall, N. C.*
 By whom *Capt. Sewers*
 Period *3 yrs.*

Last paid:
 By whom
 To what time, 186

Present or absent *Absent*
 Remarks: *Absent without leave.*

The 11th Battalion North Carolina Infantry was organized under authority of the Secretary of War dated May 10, 1862. It was increased to a regiment about July 20, 1862, and designated the 64th Regiment North Carolina Infantry (State Troops). It was also known as Allen's Regiment, North Carolina Infantry.

Book mark
L. B. Boyd
 642 Corporal

Confederate.
64 N. C.

George Buckner
Privt, Co. *D*, 64 Reg't North Carolina
 Infantry (State Troops).

Appears on
 Company Muster Roll
 of the organization named above,
 for *May & June*, 1863.

Enlisted:
 When *July 15, 1862*
 Where *Marshall, N. C.*
 By whom *Capt. Sewers*
 Period *3 yrs.*

Last paid:
 By whom *J. B. Nelson*
 To what time *Oct 30, 1863*

Present or absent *Absent*
 Remarks: *Absent without leave.*

The 11th Battalion North Carolina Infantry was organized under authority of the Secretary of War dated May 10, 1862. It was increased to a regiment about July 20, 1862, and designated the 64th Regiment North Carolina Infantry (State Troops). It was also known as Allen's Regiment, North Carolina Infantry.

Book mark:
L. B. Boyd
 642 Corporal

Two pages from the service record for George Washington Buckner in Company D of the 64th North Carolina Regiment. All service records are from Fold3.

never really served as a soldier in the Confederate Army. However, having a record of being absent without leave suggests desertion, which was rampant among Confederate soldiers from Madison County, rather than being “sent home because he was not fit to be a soldier.” Malinda’s claim that George was sick at home and unable to work between the time he left the 64th and the time he enlisted in the 2nd North Carolina Mounted Infantry, a unit of the Union Army, appears unsubstantiated. It is curious that a physician’s statement verifying his illness at home during this time is not included

in her application. Furthermore, their youngest child, George Marion Buckner, would have been conceived during the time of George’s incapacitation.

B | 2 (Mounted.) N. C.

George Buckner

A. 2, Co., Reg't N. C. Mtd. Inf.

Appears on

Company Descriptive Book

of the organization named above.

DESCRIPTION.

Age 32 years; height 5 feet 10 inches.

Complexion fair

Eyes blue; hair dark

Where born Buncombe, N.C.

Occupation farmer

ENLISTMENT.

When Sept. 15, 1863.

Where Greenville, Tenn.

By whom Capt. Kirk; term 3 y'rs.

Remarks: Died Aug. 17/64 at
Cumberland Gap, Tenn.
Mustered Oct. 6/65 Knoxville
Tenn. by Capt. Franklin

A. H. Davis

(388g) Copyist.

One page from the service record for George Washington Buckner in Company A of the 2nd North Carolina Mounted Infantry.

Regardless of his health status at the time, George enlisted in the 2nd North Carolina Mounted Infantry on September 15, 1863, in Greeneville, Tennessee. The 2nd had recently been organized and was intended to aid the recruitment of North Carolinians sympathetic to the Union. Therefore combat or major physical exertion was not anticipated. In addition, each new recruit was given a bounty of \$25 for joining and an additional \$25 for each new member recruited. Also, each soldier was given \$8 per month and a new rifle, uniform, and shoes. Hence, there was substantial incentive to join the Union Army, beyond simple support for the Union cause. Additionally, by September of 1863, it was evident that the Confederacy was on the decline and very possibly could lose the “War of Northern Aggression.” Consequently, it was seen as advantageous to be on the winning side at the end of the war. While George’s motives for enlist-

ing will never be known with certainty, monetary incentives must have carried great weight in his decision.

As noted on one of the pages of George's service records, at the time of his death he had been paid his initial bounty of \$25 for joining and was due another \$75, probably for recruiting additional soldiers. I have seen no records indicating that Malinda ever received that \$75 but her pension of \$8 a month was paid retroactively from the day after George died. She also

087 2 Mounted. N. C.

George Buckner
 Co. A, 2 Reg't N. C. Mounted Inf.

Appears on
 Company Muster Roll
 for *May & June*, 1864

Joined for duty and enrolled:
 When *Sept. 15*, 1863.*
 Where *Newville, Tenn.**
 Period *3* years.*

Present or absent *Present*

Stoppage, \$.....100 for

Due Gov't, \$.....100 for

Valuation of horse, \$.....100

Valuation of horse equipments, \$.....100

Remarks: *Bounty paid \$25.00*

*See enrollment on card from muster-in roll.

Book-mark:

Chandler
 (858c) Copyist.

087 2 Mounted. N. C.

George Buckner
 Co. A, 2 Reg't N. C. Mtd. Inf.

Age *32* years.
 Appears on Co. Muster-out Roll, dated
Knoxville, Tenn. Aug. 16, 1865.

Muster-out to date, 186 ..

Last paid to *Aug 30, 1864.*

Clothing account:
 Last settled, 186 ; drawn since \$.....100
 Due soldier \$.....100; due U. S. \$.....100
 Am't for cloth'g in kind or money adv'd \$.....100

Due U. S. for arms, equipments, &c., \$.....100

Bounty paid \$.....25-100; due \$.....75-100

Valuation of horse, \$.....100

Valuation of horse equipments, \$.....100

Remarks: *Private from Enlistment
 died Aug. 17, 1864 at
 Cumberland Gap, Tenn.*

Book mark:

Chandler
 (861) Copyist.

Two pages from the service record for George Washington Buckner in Company A of the 2nd North Carolina Mounted Infantry.

received as part of her pension payment, \$2 per month for each of her living minor children until they reached 16, the age of majority.

No. 12164

North Carolina

Malinda Buckner

WIDOW OF

George W. Buckner

Rank *Priv.* Co. *A.*

Regt. *7th* *Ind.*

Raleigh Agency.

Rate per Month, \$ *8*

Commencing *Aug 18 61*

Additional sum of \$2 per Month for each of the following children, until arriving at the age of 16 years, commencing July 25, 1866, viz.:

Sarah J. 2 Dec 1864

William D. 15 Mar 1841

Sarah J. 13 Feb 1846

George W. 30 June 1849

Certificate dated *Nov 8 61*

Sent to *Chambers*

Asheville N.C.

Act 14th July, 1862.

Book *C* Vol. *10* Page *270*

Sargent Clerk.

One page from Malinda Buckner's pension application showing her payment and schedule. From Fold3.

Whatever George's motives may have been in joining the 2nd, they were likely not made in a vacuum. There was always his family to consider. The oldest of his children at the time of his 1863 enlistment in the 2nd was 9 or 10 year old Sarah Jane, depending upon which birth year for her is correct. His youngest, George Marion, had just been born in January of that year. Providing for his family was probably seen as a priority for George. In addition, George was not alone amongst his family members in deciding to join the 2nd.

Henry Buckner and his wife Mary Foster Buckner had moved their family from Caroline County, Virginia, to Rowan County, North Carolina in the Spring of 1789. They had ten children at the time and this initial influx into western North Carolina represents the seed from which many future Buckners populated the region. While some eventually moved to other states, their oldest child, John, settled in Buncombe County where he was the father of nineteen children by three wives. John was the paternal grandfather of George Washington Buckner. George's parents Daniel and Sally had at least ten children, many surviving to adult-

hood, so there was a large number of Henry and Mary Buckner's descendants living in Madison and Buncombe Counties at the beginning of the American Civil War

The mountain folk of Madison County, North Carolina, were very closely related in many ways. The rural communities consisted principally of farmers who were self-sufficient for the most part and anything they needed could likely be obtained locally without any extensive travel to larger towns such as Marshall, Asheville, or the Greene County, Tennessee, town of Greeneville. Outside of travel to visit family members and friends, there was little need to venture very far away from the farm. Family connections in these communities were numerous. Marriage was commonly seen among local residents. Marriage within families (e.g., first cousins) was also relatively common since most of those eligible were unable or unwilling to travel great distances to find a mate. So George and Malinda had a considerable number of relatives having many different surnames living nearby.

Hundreds of soldiers on both sides in the American Civil War had the surname of Buckner or were related to the Buckner family in one way or another. The divided family was commonplace. The Confederate Conscription Act brought a large number of them into service with the 64th North Carolina Regiment in 1862. That included George and his brothers James, Garrett, Jacob, and Newton. There were also many Buckner cousins conscripted in North Carolina in 1862. Some of them deserted and either hid out for the remaining years of the war or joined the Union. Many remained loyal to the Confederate States of America. George Washington Buckner decided in the Fall of 1863 that, for many reasons, it was an opportune time to join the Union Army.

Members of the Union's 2nd North Carolina Mounted Infantry with the Buckner surname numbered 10 by the end of 1863. Along with George was his brother, John H. Buckner. In addition to the Buckners, George had family connections with several others in that unit. His relationship to John Thompson meant that he was the half first cousin, once removed, of John's sons James Marion and Joseph Thompson, also members of the 2nd. Of course, George's wife Malinda was the half sister of those Thompson brothers. Malinda was also half sister of another member of the 2nd, Spencer

Rice, a son of her father Joseph by his wife Pattie. George and Malinda's future son-in-law Joseph Lewis was also in the 2nd.

Even though the 2nd was a "mounted" unit, there was not an adequate number of horses for all members. Therefore, it seems likely that George had to hike wherever his unit was sent. This certainly would have placed additional strain on the already ailing George Washington Buckner. In fact, however, he spent most of his time with the unit encamped at Cumberland Gap, Tennessee. He was said by William Sprinkle and James Yelton in a statement shown earlier to have become sick in June of 1864 and that he died there in August of that year.

George died intestate so the settlement of his estate was managed by the Madison County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, the clerk of which was E. J. Tweed. It is remarkable, in light of the post-war turmoil that

<p>Sept 22nd 1866</p> <p>We the under sined jury met And after beeing dewly swarn To lay off and alot to Malinda Buckner widow of George W. Buckner Decesed as follows to wit All the house hold & kitchen furniture 2 two milk cows & calvs 1 one pare of geers 3 three hoes 1 one falling axe 1 one mattick</p> <p>Far hur years provision Attest Lewis Crane AS. Tweed Jacob Jarrett Henry Wild</p>	<p>Sept 22nd 1866</p> <p>We the under sined jury met and after beeing dewly swarn to lay off and alot to Malinda Buckner - widow of George W. Buckner Decesed as follows to wit All the house hold & kitchen furniture 2 two milk cows & calvs 1 one pare of geers 3 three hoes 1 one falling axe 1 one mattick</p> <p>Far hur years provision Attest Lewis Crane AS. Tweed Jacob Jarrett Henry Wild</p>
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One page from the estate files for George Washington Buckner dated September 22, 1866, and listing the contents of his estate awarded to his widow, Malinda. Jacob Jarrett and Henry Wild were two of the jurors appointed by Clerk E. J. Tweed. The original image on the left is transcribed on the right. From familysearch.org.

plagued North Carolina, that the settlement of George's estate was accomplished within a short period of time and coincidentally with the filing by Malinda Buckner of her application for a widow's pension.

In accordance with the law, Tweed appointed twelve jurors to decide the fate of George's holdings. Many of the men appointed lived in the vicinity of George's land near Big Laurel, knew George and Malinda, and attended Big Laurel Baptist Church with them (Appendix). Henry Wild appears to have been a thirteenth juror utilized by Tweed. In any case, of those appointed, Henry Wild and Jacob Jarrett, would eventually become ancestors of direct descendants of George and Malinda Buckner. Mary Elizabeth

State of North Carolina
Madison County

<p><i>State of North Carolina Madison County we the under assigned jury was summoned to meet at the house of Malinda Buckner to lay of her life times dower out of the lands of G. W. Buckner her deceased husband & after being duly sworn proceeded as follows & laid off sixteen & 2/3 of acres of land to include the dwelling house & other buildings which land we lay off alot to Malinda Buckner widow of G. W. Buckner deceased to have during her life time said lands lying on the walnut mountain adjoining the lands of E. Wilds &</i></p>	<p><i>We the undersigned jury was summon to meet at the house of Malida Buckner to lay of her life times dower out of the lands of G. W. Buckner her deceased husband & after being duly sworn proceeded as follows & laid off Sixteen & 2/3 of acres of land to include the dwelling house & other buildings which land we lay off alot to Malinda Buckner widow of G. W. Buckner deceased to have during her life time Said lands lying on the walnut mountain adjoining the lands of E. Wilds &</i></p>
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The first of two pages from the estate files for George Washington Buckner showing that Malinda was awarded the house and part of the fifty acres that was owned by George. The disposition of the remainder of the land is not known. The original image on the left is transcribed on the right. From familysearch.org.

Dockery, a granddaughter of Henry Wild, married William Isaac Buckner, second oldest child of George and Malinda Buckner. A granddaughter of Jacob Jarrett, Rhoda Caroline Jarrett, married George Marion Buckner, the youngest child of George and Malinda Buckner.

In addition to Jacob Jarrett and Henry Wild, Stephen Wallin, another juror and the minister who married George and Malinda, had two daughters who married half-siblings of Malinda Runnion Buckner. His oldest daughter, Elizabeth, married Joseph Thompson in 1867 and his second daughter, Sarah Jane, married Spencer Rice in 1866. So these post-war years were busy for the Wallin family and for Malinda Buckner and her children.

Mollie Runnion Thompson moved with John and several of their children to

<p><i>others which we put her into possession of during her life time given under our hands & seals Sept 22 1866</i></p> <p><i>Lewis Crane J. S. Bishop Jacob Jarrett Stephen Wallin George Cutshall John Tweed Reuben Tweed A. S. Tweed John Franklin Simeon Chandler John Ramsey A. J. Banks</i></p>	<p><i>others which we put her into possession of during her life time given under our hands & seals Sept 22 1866.</i></p>	<p>Attest J A Gilbert</p>	<p>Lewis Crane J. S. Bishop Jacob Jarrett Stephen Wallin George Cutshall John Tweed Reuben Tweed A. S. Tweed John Franklin Simeon Chandler John Ramsey A. J. Banks</p>
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The second of two pages from the estate files for George Washington Buckner dated September 22, 1866, and listing the names of twelve of the jurors appointed by the court (continued from previous page). Another familiar name on the list is Stephen Wallin, the minister who married George and Malinda. The original image on the left is transcribed on the right.

Clay County, Kentucky, in the mid to late 1870s. It is said that their move was made because John got in trouble for making moonshine whiskey in North Carolina. Their son Joseph and his wife Elizabeth Wallin Thompson were living next to them at the time of the 1880 US census for Clay County, Kentucky. Three of the children of Joseph and Elizabeth, the oldest of which was 4 year old Robert, are listed as having been born in Kentucky.

The times of the moves to Kentucky by other members of the family are not known with certainty either. William (Will) Isaac and Mary Elizabeth (Lizzie) Dockery Buckner are thought to have moved to Clay County in about 1897 since their son Dallas is listed in the 1900 US census as having been born in Kentucky in October of that year. Malinda Buckner may have moved with them at that time but her pension payments were not transferred to the Louisville agency until after her November 4, 1899, payment.

3-328.
(TRANSFER STATEMENT-1.)

Department of the Interior,
UNITED STATES PENSION AGENCY,

KNOX, TENN.

July 9, 1900, 1900

SIR:

By order of the Commissioner of Pensions, dated Under Executive Grant No. 149,218, 1877,
the name of Malinda Buckner, Wid. of George W.
late a Private in Co. A, Regiment 2nd M.C. Hols
pensioned under the act of March 3, 1877, 18, at the rate
of \$ 12 per month by certificate No. 112674, has
been transferred to the roll of the Louisville
agency, to take effect from 4 Nov 1899, 1, the date of
last payment.

Very respectfully,

J. J. Miller
Pension Agent.

HON. COMMISSIONER OF PENSIONS,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Statement regarding the transfer of the pension payment for Malinda Buckner to the Louisville, Kentucky, agency with payment starting from November 4, 1899, the date of the previous payment. From Fold3.

Malinda Buckner died in Clay County, Kentucky, on January 20, 1903. After her death, Will and Lizzie Buckner moved to Okmulgee County, Oklahoma, where they died in 1933 and 1940, respectively. Her other two

sons, Noah and George, as well as her daughter Sarah Jane remained in Madison County, North Carolina, where they died in 1937, 1929, and 1925, respectively (see page 33).

331
B.

3-405.

PENSIONER DROPPED.

U. S. Pension Agency,
Louisville, Ky.

Feb. 20th, 1903

Certificate No. 102674

Class Widow

Pensioner Malinda Buckner

Soldier George W. Buckner

Service P. K. A., 2nd N. C. Vols.

Hon. Commissioner of Pensions:

SIR: I have the honor to report that the above-named pensioner who was last paid at \$12.00, to 4 Nov., 1902, has been dropped because of death Jan. 20th, 1903.

Date

Very respectfully,
D. B. Baccier
Pension Agent.

NOTE—Every name dropped to be thus reported at once, and when cause of dropping is death, state date of death when known. 12745b50m12-99



Left: Statement from the U. S. Pension Agency at Louisville, Kentucky, that Malinda Buckner had been dropped from the pension rolls because of her death on January 20, 1903. From Fold3. **Right:** Tombstone for Malinda Runnion Buckner in the Macedonia Church Cemetery, Burning Springs, Clay County, Kentucky. Photograph copied from Find A Grave Memorial 66133159 by Patricia Ann Branson.

Children of George Washington and Malinda (Runnion) Buckner

George Washington Buckner
b. 1832, Buncombe County, North Carolina
d. 17 Aug 1864, Cumberland Gap, Tennessee
& Malinda Runnion
b. 22 Dec 1831, North Carolina
d. 20 Jan 1903, Burning Springs, Clay County, Kentucky
m. 23 Dec 1852, Madison County, NC

Sarah Jane Buckner
b. 3 Dec 1853, North Carolina
d. 11 May 1925, Big Laurel Creek, Madison County, North Carolina
& Joseph L. Lewis
b. 1 Feb 1846, East Fork, Bull Creek, Buncombe County, North Carolina
d. 6 Oct 1912, Big Laurel Creek, Madison County, North Carolina
m. 24 Feb 1870, Madison County, North Carolina

William Isaac Buckner
b. 16 Mar 1855, Buncombe County, North Carolina.
d. 7 Nov 1933, Okmulgee County, Oklahoma
& Mary Elizabeth Dockery
b. September 1852-53, Madison County, North Carolina
d. 29 Feb 1940, Okmulgee County, Oklahoma
m. 9 May 1875, Madison County, North Carolina

Mary "Polly" Buckner
b. 1858

Noah J. Buckner
b. 14 Feb 1860, Madison County, North Carolina
d. 19 Apr 1937, Madison County, North Carolina
& Mary Ann Rice
b. 31 Jul 1865, Madison County, North Carolina
d. 18 Jan 1915, Madison County, North Carolina
m. 13 Feb 1881, Madison County, North Carolina

George Marion Buckner
b. 21 Jan 1863, Madison County, North Carolina
d. 28 Oct 1929, Madison County, North Carolina
& Rhoda Caroline Jarrett
b. 26 Jan 1866, Madison County, North Carolina
d. 13 Mar 1931, Madison County, North Carolina
m. 7 Mar 1886, Madison County, North Carolina

Family of George Washington and Malinda Runnion Buckner.

1. Sarah Jane Buckner



Sarah Jane Buckner, the oldest child and only daughter of George Washington and Malinda Runnion Buckner surviving to adulthood. She was born on December 3, 1852 or 1853. Conflicting evidence regarding her birth year is discussed earlier in this document. She died May 11, 1925 in Madison County, North Carolina. Photograph courtesy of Ann Branson.

MARRIAGE

NAME AND RESIDENCE OF MAN.	AGE.	COLOR.	NAME AND RESIDENCE OF WOMAN.	AGE.	COLOR.
Lewis Joseph.			Sarah Jane Buckner		

REGISTER.

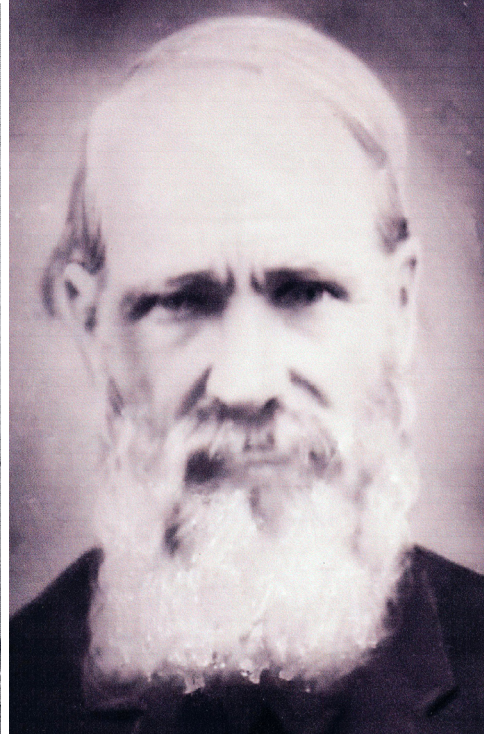
NAME AND TITLE OF MINISTER OR OFFICER CELEBRATING MARRIAGE.	DATE OF MARRIAGE.	PLACE OF MARRIAGE.	NAMES OF WITNESSES PRESENT AT MARRIAGE. (Number of three Witnesses at least must be given.)
S. Wallin P. M. 2nd	Feb 14 1870		

MARRIAGE

DATE OF ISSUE.	NAME AND RESIDENCE OF MAN.	AGE.	COLOR.	NAME AND RESIDENCE OF WOMAN.	AGE.
Oct. 24 1870	Lewis Joseph			Margaret Richer	
Feb 24 1870	Lewis Joseph			Sarah Jane Buckner	

Record for the marriage of Sarah Jane Buckner and Joseph Lewis. The top document constitutes one record and shows Marriage (top) and Register (bottom) components that spanned two pages of the record book. This appears first in the record book and gives a date of February 14, 1870, for their marriage. It was conducted by Justice of the Peace Stephen Wallin, who had married her parents. The lower document appears later in the same record book and lists their marriage date as February 24, 1870. No other information except for their names is included on this page, which appears to have been added as a correction for the earlier date. I assume that the later date is the more accurate of the two. From familysearch.org.

Thanks to Ann Branson for a list of the names of the following 13 children of Joseph and Sarah Jane Buckner Lewis: Polly M., Amanda Cornelia, George Marion, Stephen Alexander, Suzy Matilda, William J., James Garfield, Joseph Welzie, Theodore "Dore" Everett, Benjamin Harrison, John Quincy Adams, Earl, and Sarah Suffina. Given family names reappear amongst her children as well as those of her brothers.



*Joseph Lewis was a son of Berry and Talitha Gillespie Lewis. He was living with his family in Yancey County, North Carolina, near the John Thompson family at the time of the 1850 US census. Berry Lewis was a member of the Big Laurel Baptist Church on May 18, 1844 (list courtesy of Ann Branson). On October 1, 1863, Joseph joined the 2nd North Carolina Mounted Infantry at Knoxville, Tennessee, and was assigned to Company B. His future father-in-law, George Washington Buckner, was in Company A of that unit. On February 22, 1864, Joseph was captured near Cumberland Gap, Tennessee, and was released on parole May 8, 1864. He was then assigned duty at Camp Chase, Ohio, where he appears to have been located at the time of George's death. Joseph's brother, James Wilson Lewis, was a member of the 3rd North Carolina Mounted Infantry, formed after it's counterpart, the 2nd. Joseph's twin brother, Daniel, joined the 10th Tennessee Cavalry (Union). Another brother, Nicholas Marion, joined the 29th North Carolina Infantry (Confederate) and appears to have died in 1863 during the battle of Chickamauga. **Left:** Joseph Lewis as a member of the 2nd. Photograph from "Kirk's Raiders" by Matthew Baumgarner. **Right:** Joseph Lewis photograph courtesy of Ann Branson.*



Joseph and Sarah Jane Buckner Lewis. Photograph courtesy of Ann Branson.

In October, 2017, I had the good fortune to travel with my wife Ardis to Madison County, North Carolina, where we met a cousin, Ann Branson. George Washington and Malinda Runnion Buckner were our great great grandparents so Ann and I are 3rd cousins. Ann is descended from their son George Marion and I from their son William Isaac. During that visit, Ann guided us through the mountain country of Madison County where we visited the gravesites of Sarah Jane, Noah J., and George Marion Buckner, the children of George and Malinda who remained in North Carolina where they died. Photographs of Ann and me at their gravesites are included here.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

1 PLACE OF DEATH Madison Registration District No. 28-5 State NC Register No. 98
County Madison Township Big Laurel T.C. City Big Laurel
(If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME (instead of street and number))

2 FULL NAME Sarah J. Lewis
(a) Residence No. 210 (b) Ward 2
Length of residence in city or town where death occurred 50 yrs. mos. ds. How long in U. S. (if of foreign birth) 75 yrs. mos. ds.

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS				MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
3 Sex <u>Female</u>	4 Color or Race <u>White</u>	5 Single, Married, Widowed, or Divorced (write the word) <u>Married</u>	16 Date of Death (month, day, and year) <u>May 11 1925</u>		
6a If married, widowed, or divorced Husband or (or) Wife's name <u>Joseph Lewis</u>			17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from <u>May 1 1925</u> to <u>May 8 1925</u> that I last saw her alive on <u>May 8 1925</u> and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at <u>2 P.M.</u> The CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows: <u>Stroke - Cerebrovascular</u>		
6 Date of birth (month, day, and year) <u>Dec 2nd 1852</u>					
7 Age <u>72</u> years <u>5</u> months <u>8</u> days If LESS than 1 day, write in minutes	8 Occupation of deceased (a) Trade, Profession, or particular line of work <u>Farming</u>				
(b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer)					
(c) Name of employer					
9 Birthplace (city or town) <u>Big Laurel</u> (State or country) <u>NC</u>			18 Where was disease contracted (a) At place of death (b) Elsewhere (duration) <u>yes</u> <u>mos.</u> <u>ds.</u>		
10 Name of Father <u>Geo. Buckner</u>			Contestatory (duration) <u>yes</u> <u>mos.</u> <u>ds.</u>		
11 Birthplace of Father (city or town) (State or country) <u>Benson</u> <u>NC</u>			19 Was there an autopsy? <u>No</u>		
12 Maiden Name of Mother <u>Thomson</u>			What test confirmed diagnosis (Specify) <u>Dr. J. H. Marshall</u>		
13 Birthplace of Mother (city or town) (State or country) <u>Madison</u> <u>NC</u>			20 Place of Burial, Cremation, or removal <u>Big Laurel</u> Date of Burial <u>May 19 1925</u>		
14 Informant (Address) <u>Big Laurel</u>			21 Undertaker <u>W. H. Holcomb & Co</u> Address <u>Madison</u>		
15 Filed <u>19</u>					

REGISTRAR

Death certificate for Sarah Jane Buckner Lewis. Note that her birth year is listed as 1852 and her mother's maiden name as Thomson. From familysearch.org.



Ann Branson and I are standing behind the tombstone for Joseph and Sarah Jane Buckner Lewis in the Lewis Cemetery, 451 Lewis Branch Road, Big Laurel, Madison County, North Carolina. Photo by Gary Branson.

2. William Isaac Buckner



William Isaac Buckner and Mary Elizabeth Dockery, 1875 wedding picture, courtesy of Margie Jenkins, who is descended from their daughter Mary Corena. A profile of Will and Lizzie and their family is available online at <https://archive.org/details/BucknerWIMEFamilyProfile>.

The children of Will and Lizzie Buckner were Malinda Cordelia, Philip Washington, Lydia Louise, James Harrison, Sarah Jane, Fletcher, Clara Mae, Elsie Leona, Mary Corena, and Dallas.

3. Noah J. Buckner



Noah J. Buckner. There are some who say that his middle name was Jasper but I have seen no evidence for that. His father George had a brother named Newton Jasper but also had three brothers whose names began with J, namely James, Jacob, and John. Photograph courtesy of Ann Branson. Ann has also kindly provided the names of 10 of the children of Noah and his wife Mary Ann as follows: George Washington, James Nelson, Sarah A., William Edmond, Virgie M., Mollie J., Malinda, Nellie Angie, Harriett, and Cora Ellen. At least one more appears to have died at an early age.

MARRIAGE

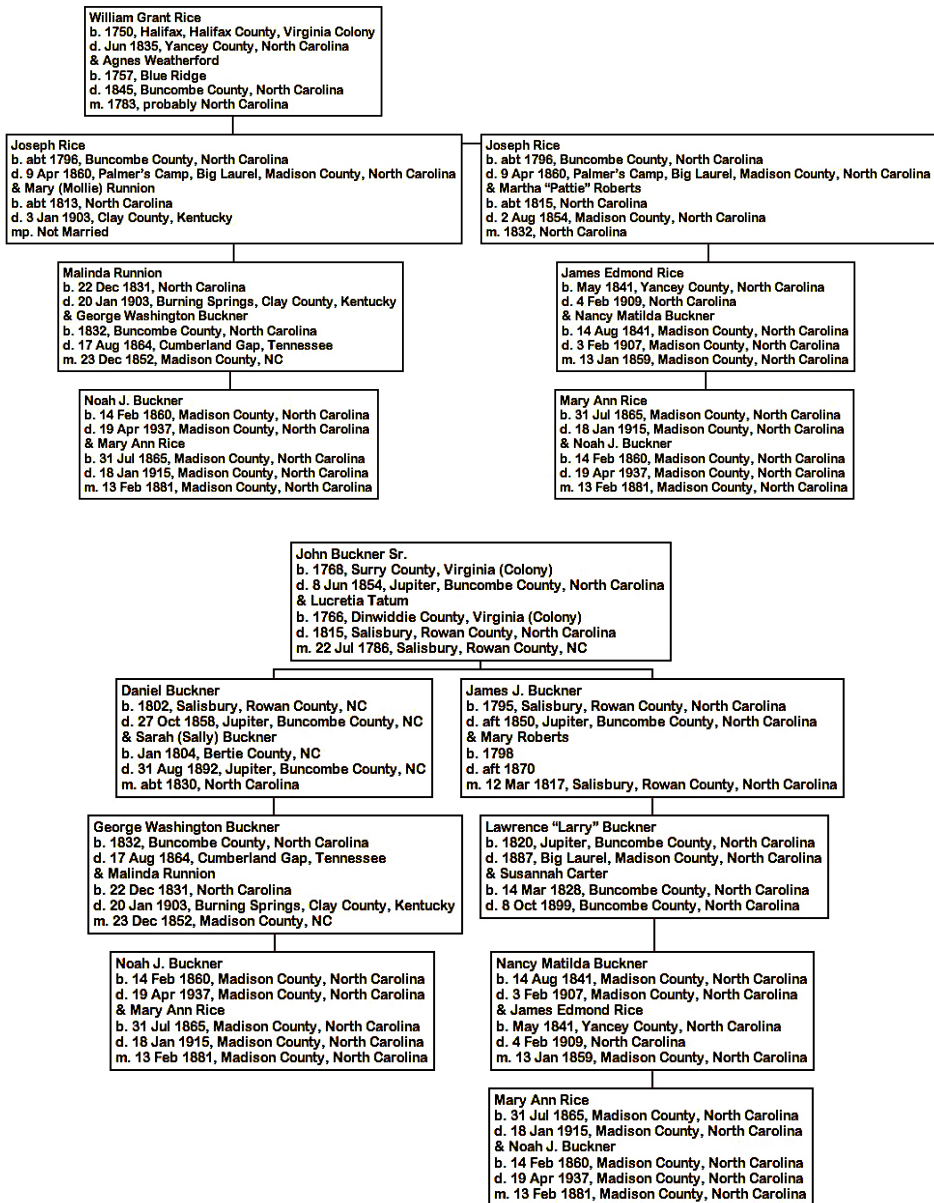
DATE OF ISSUE.	NAME AND RESIDENCE OF MAN.	AGE.	COLOR.	NAME AND RESIDENCE OF WOMAN.	AGE.	COLOR.
Feb. 11 1881	Buckner Noah J.	19	W	Nancy Rice	18	W

REGISTER.

NAME AND TITLE OF MINISTER OR OFFICER CELEBRATING MARRIAGE.	DATE OF MARRIAGE.	PLACE OF MARRIAGE.	NAMES OF WITNESSES PRESENT AT MARRIAGE. (Names of three Witnesses at least must be given.)
J. B. Rice	Feb 10 1881	"	J. M. Child, R. J. Buckner D. B. Rice, J. B. Rice



Top: Record for the marriage of Noah Buckner and Mary Ann (Nancy) Rice. This document constitutes one record and shows Marriage (top) and Register (bottom) components that spanned two pages of the record book. From familysearch.org. **Bottom:** Photograph added by Bill Foster to the Find A Grave Memorial 71628490 created by Patricia Ann Branson showing James Edmond Rice and members of his family. Edmond, a son of Joseph Rice, is the older man with the beard sitting in front and his daughter, Mary Ann, is standing second from the right in the back. Mary Ann married Noah J. Buckner. Their family relationships are shown on the next page.



Genealogy charts showing the family relationships, apart from being husband and wife, for Noah J. Buckner and Mary Ann Rice. **Top:** Noah and Mary Ann were grandchildren of Joseph Rice so that made them half 1st cousins. **Bottom:** Noah and Mary Ann were descended from John Buckner, Sr. and Lucretia Tatum Buckner, so Mary Ann was a 2nd cousin, once removed, of Noah through that line.



Two photographs of the gravesite of Noah J. and Mary Ann Rice Buckner taken in October, 2017, while Ardis and I were visiting Ann Branson. The top photo shows Ann and me standing behind their tombstone and the bottom photo gives a clearer view of the inscription on the stone. They are buried in Rice Cove Cemetery, Rice Cove Road, Revere, Madison County, North Carolina. James Edmond Rice and many of his family members are also buried in this cemetery. Photos by Gary Branson.

3. George Marion Buckner



Photograph of George Marion and Rhoda Caroline Jarrett Buckner, courtesy of Ann Branson.

Thanks to Ann Branson for a list of the names of the following 10 children of George and Rhoda Buckner: Murry Daniel, Floyd Manuel, Susan Amanda, Malinda E., Minnie Bell, Vie A., Lovada Aneliza, Sarah Jane, Bonnie Georgianna, and Hattie Christine.

MARRIAGE

DATE OF ISSUE.	NAME AND RESIDENCE OF MAN.	AGE.	COLOR.	NAME AND RESIDENCE OF WOMAN.	AGE.	COLOR.
Nov. 4 1896 Carroll Co. N.C.	Buckner G. M. Big Laurel, N.C.	22	W	Rhoda C. Jarrett. Big Laurel, N.C.	20	W

REGISTER.

NAME AND TITLE OF MINISTER OR OFFICER CELEBRATING MARRIAGE.	DATE OF MARRIAGE.	PLACE OF MARRIAGE.	NAMES OF WITNESSES PRESENT AT MARRIAGE. (Names of three witnesses at least must be given.)
J. N. Rice	Nov 7 1896	Big Laurel, N.C.	Will Buckner, G. Sams Elizabeth Thompson

**NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS
STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**

110

1 PLACE OF DEATH
County: Madison 58 Registration District No. 58-1737 State: N. Carolina
Township: No 10 or Village: Big Laurel, N.C. or City: _____

2 FULL NAME: George Buckner 2-5-6
(a) Residence: No. On road between Big Laurel & Marshall, N.C. Ward: _____
(Usual place of abode)
Length of residence in city or town where death occurred: 65 yrs. 5 mos. 7 ds. How long in U.S. if of foreign birth: 18 yrs. 2 mos. 10 ds.

3 SEX: male 4 COLOR: Race: White 5 Single, Married, Widowed, or Divorced (write the word): Married

6a If married, widowed, or divorced: Husband of Rhoda Jarrett Buckner (or) Wife of: _____

6 Date of Birth (month, day, and year): Dec 22, 1865

7 Age: 63 years Months: _____ Days: _____ If LESS than 1 day: _____ hrs. _____ min. _____ sec.

8 Occupation of deceased:
(a) Trade, Profession, or particular kind of work: farmer
(b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer): mountain farmer
(c) Name of employer: none

9 Birthplace (city or town) (State or country): Big Laurel, N.C.

10 Name of Father: George Buckner (State or country): Ashtabula, N.C.

11 Birthplace of Father (city or town) (State or country): _____

12 Maiden Name of Mother: Malinda Rice (State or country): _____

13 Birthplace of Mother (city or town) (State or country): Madison, N.C.

14 Informant: Willie Rice (Address): _____

15 Filed: _____

16 Date of Death (month, day, and year): October 29, 1929

17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from October 27, 1929 to October 28, 1929 that I last saw him alive on October 27th, 1929, and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at 2:10 P.M.

The CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows:
Septic sore throat, possibly with Vincent's present, in acute exacerbation with probably some meningitis involvement of duration of the above of 2-3 weeks. Contributory: Chronic neuritis and senility. (duration) 4-5 yrs.

18 Where was disease contracted: At home at place of birth
If not at place of birth? _____

Did an operation precede death? No Date of: _____

Was there an autopsy? No
Laboratory analysis of tissues white, opaque, on throat what test confirmed diagnosis and what contained: _____
24 (Signed) E. M. Locke M.D. M. D.
Oct 29, 1929 (Address) Laurel Hospital, Big Laurel, N.C.

*State the Disease Causing Death, or in deaths from Violent Causes, state (1) Means and Nature of Injury, and (2) whether Accidental, Suicidal, or Homicidal. (See reverse side for additional space.)

19 Place of Burial, Cremation, or removal: Lewis Graveyard, Big Laurel, N.C. Date of Burial: October 30, 1929

20 Undertaker: Woodward Holland made casket Address: Big Laurel, N.C.

Top: Record for the marriage of George Marion Buckner and Rhoda Caroline Jarrett. The top document constitutes one record and shows Marriage (top) and Register (bottom) components that spanned two pages of the record book. Note that Will Buckner, George's older brother, was a witness to the marriage. Z(ephaniah) Sams, the other witness, was the husband of Elizabeth Thompson, a daughter of John and Mollie Thompson. **Bottom:** Death certificate for George Marion Buckner. Note that his mother's name is listed as Malinda Rice. The birth date of December 22, 1865, is not accurate. Both records were obtained from familysearch.org.



Ann Branson and I are standing behind the tombstone for her great grandparents, George Marion and Rhoda Caroline Jarrett Buckner, in the Lewis Cemetery, 451 Lewis Branch Road, Big Laurel, Madison County, North Carolina. Photo by Gary Branson, October, 2017.

Appendix

LINKS TO FAMILY INFORMATION AT ARCHIVE.ORG:

1. Malinda Buckner Pension Application:
<https://archive.org/details/BucknerMalindaPensionAppl>
2. George Washington Buckner Estate Files:
<https://archive.org/details/BucknerGWestate>
3. James Harrison and Cliffie Carrie Daniel Buckner Family:
<https://archive.org/details/JamesHarrisonAndCliffieCarrieDanielBucknerFamilyProfile>
4. William Isaac and Mary Elizabeth Dockery Buckner Family:
<https://archive.org/details/BucknerWIMEFamilyProfile>

SELECTED BIG LAUREL BAPTIST CHURCH MEMBERS (information courtesy of Ann Branson)

NAME	JOINED/BAPTISMS
Buckner, George	November 16, 1856
Buckner, Malinda	November 16, 1856
Buckner, William	October 19, 1873
Buckner, Noah	August 18, 1884
Buckner, George Marion	unknown
Crane, Lewis	May 18, 1844
Dockery, Elizabeth (Buckner)	April 17, 1868
Franklin, John	September 19, 1857
Gilbert, James A.	January 15, 1853
Jarrett, Jacob	September, 1849
Jarrett, Rhoda (Buckner)	February 29, 1893
Lewis, Joseph	September 11, 1901
Lewis, Sarah Jane Buckner	September 11, 1901
Rice, Joseph	May 18, 1844
Rice, Martha (Pattie)	May 18, 1844
Rice, Mary Ann (Buckner)	unknown
Rice, S(pencer)	unknown
Thompson, Azariah	June 20, 1846
Thompson, Elizabeth (Wallin)	October 5, 1865
Thompson, Joseph	October 5, 1876
Thompson, Polly (Runnion)	August 17, 1844
Wild, Henry	June 19, 1859
Wallin, Jesse	November 21, 1852
Wallin, Sarah J. (Rice)	October 5, 1863
Wallin, Stephen	May 18, 1844

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